

1       **In the Claims**

2       Claims 1, 12, 19, 25, 30 and 32 are amended.

3       Claims 1-39 remain in the application and are listed as follows:

4  
5  
6       1.       (Currently Amended) A method of processing a multi-media  
7 editing project comprising:

8           generating a request for one or more multi-media files for use in a  
9 multi-media editing project, the request being generated by a user  
10 computer that comprises part of a network where multi-media files are  
11 maintained in a network –accessible location;

12           intercepting the request;

13           ascertaining whether a requested multi-media file is located on the  
14 user computer by checking one or more user-designated directories for the  
15 multi-media file;

16           retrieving the multi-media file if the file is located on the user  
17 computer; and

18           seeking the requested file from the network-accessible location if  
19 the multi-media file is not located on the user computer.

20  
21       2.       (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising asking  
22 a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the  
23 user computer.

1           3.     (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising asking  
2 a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the  
3 user computer, and then searching for the requested file in a designated  
4 local directory before seeking the requested file from the network-  
5 accessible location.

6  
7           4.     (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining  
8 comprises checking various predetermined file directories on the  
9 computer's hard drive.

10  
11           5.     (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining  
12 comprises:

13                 maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been  
14 stored in the past; and

15                 checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files.

16  
17           6.     (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining  
18 comprises:

19                 maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored;  
20 and

21                 checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files.

22  
23           7.     (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining  
24 comprises:

1 maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been  
2 stored in the past or are presently stored; and

3 checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files.  
4

5 8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
6 maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored;  
7 and  
8 updating the list responsive to receiving and storing a multi-media  
9 file in a local directory that is not on the list.  
10

11 9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
12 maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored;  
13 and  
14 updating the list responsive to a user designating a local directory  
15 that is not on the list.  
16

17 10. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having  
18 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a  
19 computer, implement the method of claim 1.  
20

21 11. (Original) A multi-media project editing application  
22 configured for execution on a user computer, the application being  
23 configured to implement the method of claim 1.  
24  
25

1           12.   (Currently Amended) A method of processing a multi-media  
2 editing project comprising:

3           maintaining information on a local computer that comprises part of  
4 a network having multiple computers, said information being associated  
5 with multi-media files that are maintained in a network-accessible location  
6 and that can be temporarily stored on the local computer's hard drive; and

7           responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the  
8 network-accessible location, using the information to attempt to locate the  
9 requested file on the local computer's hard drive in one or more user-  
10 designated directories before attempting to retrieve the file in the network-  
11 accessible location.

12  
13           13.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said information  
14 comprises a list of local directories where multi-media files are stored.

15  
16           14.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said information  
17 comprises a list of local directories where multi-media files have been  
18 stored.

19  
20           15.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said information  
21 comprises a list of local directories where multi-media files are or have  
22 been stored.

23  
24           16.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said information  
25 comprises a list of local directories where multi-media files are stored, and

1 further comprising asking a user to designate one or more local directories  
2 where a requested multi-media file might be stored if the requested file  
3 cannot be located in the directories designated on the list.  
4

5 17. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising  
6 updating the list responsive to a user designating the one or more  
7 directories, and searching for multi-media files in the one or more  
8 directories on subsequent attempts to locate requested files.  
9

10 18. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having  
11 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a  
12 computer, implement the method of claim 12.  
13

14 19. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media  
15 having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a  
16 computer, cause the computer to:

17 maintain a list on a local computer that comprises part of a network  
18 having multiple computers, said list being used to determine which local  
19 user-designated directories have been used in the past, or are currently  
20 being used to stored multi-media files that are maintained in a network-  
21 accessible location; and

22 responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the  
23 network-accessible location, use the list to first attempt to locate the  
24 requested file on the local computer's hard drive.  
25

1           20. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 19,  
2 wherein the instructions further cause the computer to attempt to retrieve  
3 the requested file in the network-accessible location in the event that the  
4 file cannot be located locally.

5  
6           21. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 19,  
7 wherein the instructions cause the computer to check only those local  
8 directories that are contained in the list.

9  
10          22. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 19,  
11 wherein the instructions cause the computer to ask a user to designate a  
12 local directory where a multi-media file might be stored in the event a  
13 requested file cannot be located on the local computer's hard drive.

14  
15          23. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22,  
16 wherein the instructions cause the computer to update the list to contain a  
17 local directory that the user designates.

18  
19          24. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22,  
20 wherein the instructions cause the computer to attempt to locate the multi-  
21 media file from the designated local directory before attempting to locate  
22 the requested multi-media file from the network-accessible location.

23  
24          25. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a multi-media  
25 editing project comprising:

1 receiving one or more multi-media files from a network-accessible  
2 location;

3 locally storing the one or more multi-media files in a local user-  
4 designated directory on a user computer for use in a multi-media editing  
5 project;

6 updating a list of local user-designated directories that contain or  
7 have contained multi-media files in the past in the event that the one or  
8 more multi-media files are stored in a local user-designated directory that  
9 is not contained in the list;

10 responsive to receiving a request for a multi-media file that is  
11 maintained in the network-accessible location:

12 first checking in all of the local user-designated directories on the  
13 list of local user-designated directories for the requested file; and

14 second checking the network-accessible location for the requested  
15 file in the event the requested file is not found locally.

16  
17 26. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising prior  
18 to second checking, asking a user to point to a local directory where the  
19 requested file might be stored and checking that local directory for the  
20 requested file.

21  
22 27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein said updating  
23 comprises doing so responsive to a user pointing to a local directory where  
24 the requested file might be stored.

1           28.   (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the multi-media  
2 files are read only files.

3  
4           29.   (Original) One or more computer-readable media having  
5 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a  
6 computer, implement the method of claim 25.

7  
8           30.   (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable  
9 media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when  
10 executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

11           maintain a list of local user-designated directories that are or have  
12 been used to store multi-media files on a local user computer, the multi-  
13 media files being accessible from a network storage location;

14           generate a request for a multi-media file that is accessible from a  
15 network storage location, the request being intended for use in retrieving a  
16 multi-media file from the network accessible storage location;

17           intercept the request;

18           ascertain a requested file from the request;

19           first, determine whether the requested file is locally available by  
20 checking all of the local user-designated directories maintained on the list  
21 and retrieve the requested file from a local user-designated directory if the  
22 file is locally maintained;

23           second, seek the requested file from the network storage location if  
24 the file is not locally maintained;



1 store the requested file in a local user-designated directory if the  
2 requested file is retrieved from the network storage location; and

3 update the list to reflect the local user-designated directory if the  
4 local user-designated directory in which the requested file is stored is not  
5 on the list.

6  
7 31. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 30,  
8 wherein the instructions cause the computer to update the list responsive to  
9 input received from a user.

10  
11 32. (Currently Amended) A multi-media editing system  
12 comprising:

13 a multi-media file locator object configured to intercept network-  
14 bound requests for multi-media files and determine whether requested files  
15 are locally maintained on a user computer in one or more user-designated  
16 directories; and

17 a list associated with the file locator object and referencing local  
18 user-designated file directories on the user computer where multi-media  
19 files are stored, the list being used by the file locator object to determine  
20 whether requested files are locally maintained on the user computer.

21  
22 33. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the list  
23 references local file directories where files have been maintained in the  
24 past.

1           34.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
2 is configured to update the list.

3  
4           35.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
5 is configured to update the list responsive to a multi-media file being  
6 stored in a local directory where multi-media files have not been stored  
7 before.

8  
9           36.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
10 is configured to update the list responsive to a user designating a local  
11 directory where a multi-media file is stored.

12  
13          37.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
14 is configured to cause one or more multi-media files to be sought through  
15 the network in the event that the one or more files are not locally  
16 maintained.

17  
18          38.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
19 comprises a COM object.

20  
21          39.    (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the locator object  
22 comprises an object-oriented object.